UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/015,949	11/02/2001	Stefano Gregori	854063.659	2938

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EXAMINER
TORRES, JOSEPH D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2133	

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application N .		Applicant(s)	
Office Action Summary	10/015,949		GREGORI ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Joseph D. Torres		2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _1_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _07 May 2002_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-15_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) _1-15_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I.   Claims 1-10, drawn to A Mathematical Method for Constructing an Error

Control Code using Symbols from a Galois Field by Constructing a Generating

Matrix Defining the Error Control Code, classified in class 714, subclass 781.

II.   Claims 11-13, drawn to Converting a First Information Word having k Input

Symbols in a First Base to a Converted First Information Word having k+n Coded

Symbols in a Second Base, classified in class 714, subclass 776.

III.   Claim 14, drawn to A Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n

Coded Symbols in a First Base to an Estimated Word having k Estimated

Symbols in a Second Base, classified in class 714, subclass 776.

IV.   Claim 15, drawn to A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling the

Storage Device during Write Access, classified in class 714, subclass 763.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions Group I, A Mathematical Method for Constructing an Error Control

Code using Symbols from a Galois Field by Constructing a Generating Matrix Defining

the Error Control Code, and Group II, Converting a First Information Word having k

Input Symbols in a First Base to a Converted First Information Word having k+n Coded

Symbols in a Second Base, are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable

together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if

they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group I, A

Mathematical Method for Constructing an Error Control Code using Symbols from a

Galois Field by Constructing a Generating Matrix Defining the Error Control Code, has

separate utility such as in the design of error correction encoding circuitry. In the instant

case, invention Group II, Converting a First Information Word having k Input Symbols in

a First Base to a Converted First Information Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a

Second Base, has separate utility such as in encoding. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Inventions Group I, A Mathematical Method for Constructing an Error Control

Code using Symbols from a Galois Field by Constructing a Generating Matrix Defining

the Error Control Code, and Group III, A Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n

Coded Symbols in a First Base to an Estimated Word having k Estimated Symbols in a

Second Base, are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single

combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be

separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group I, A Mathematical Method for

Constructing an Error Control Code using Symbols from a Galois Field by Constructing

a Generating Matrix Defining the Error Control Code, has separate utility such as in the

design of error correction encoding circuitry. In the instant case, invention Group III, A

Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a First Base to an

Estimated Word having k Estimated Symbols in a Second Base, has separate utility

such as in decoding. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Inventions Group I, A Mathematical Method for Constructing an Error Control

Code using Symbols from a Galois Field by Constructing a Generating Matrix Defining

the Error Control Code, and Group IV, A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling

the Storage Device during Write Access, are related as subcombinations disclosed as

usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each

other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group I,

A Mathematical Method for Constructing an Error Control Code using Symbols from a

Galois Field by Constructing a Generating Matrix Defining the Error Control Code, has

separate utility such as in the design of error correction encoding circuitry. In the instant

case, invention Group IV, A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling the Storage

Device during Write Access, has separate utility such as in memory access. See MPEP

§ 806.05(d).

Inventions Group II, Converting a First Information Word having k Input Symbols

in a First Base to a Converted First Information Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a

Second Base, and Group III, A Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n Coded

Symbols in a First Base to an Estimated Word having k Estimated Symbols in a Second

Base, are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single

combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be

separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group II, Converting a First Information

Word having k Input Symbols in a First Base to a Converted First Information Word

having k+n Coded Symbols in a Second Base, has separate utility such as in encoding.

In the instant case, invention Group III, A Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n

Coded Symbols in a First Base to an Estimated Word having k Estimated Symbols in a

Second Base, has separate utility such as in decoding. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Inventions Group II, Converting a First Information Word having k Input Symbols in a First Base to a Converted First Information Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a Second Base, and Group IV, A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling the Storage Device during Write Access, are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group II, Converting a First Information Word having k Input Symbols in a First Base to a Converted First Information Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a Second Base, has separate utility such as in encoding. In the instant case, invention Group IV, A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling the Storage Device during Write Access, has separate utility such as in memory access. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Inventions Group III, A Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a First Base to an Estimated Word having k Estimated Symbols in a Second Base, and Group IV, A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling the Storage Device during Write Access, are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group III, A Method for Decoding a Code Word having k+n Coded Symbols in a First Base to an Estimated Word having k Estimated Symbols in a Second Base, has separate utility such as in decoding. In the instant case, invention Group IV, A Storage Device with a Means for Controlling the Storage Device during Write Access, has separate utility such as in memory access. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II and vice a versa, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group III and vice a versa, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group IV and vice a versa, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group II is not required for Group III and vice a versa, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group II is not required for Group IV and vice a versa, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group III is not required for Group IV and vice a versa, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

A telephone call was made to Bob Iannucci on 30 March 2004 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.
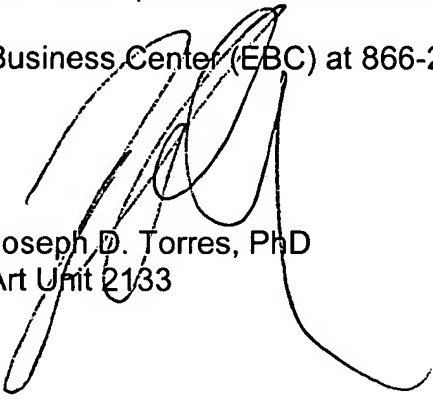
Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph D. Torres whose telephone number is (703) 308-7066. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (703) 305-9595. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph D. Torres, PhD
Art Unit 2133